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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

We rely on DSL technology for our Internet at a cost effective price and would like to maintain our choice of being able to choose among more providers - giving us more competition and lower prices. Having large Internet providers cutting off competitive access would limit us to higher prices and lower levels of service. When squirrels ate away at the lines running from the pole to our MPOE (minimum point of entry), our DSL provider was quick to act and correct the issue even when the lines were not actually their own. They were able to get the large Internet provider to repair it quickly. Prior to that, when we had the same service from the large Internet provider, not only did they give us an end around with a lengthy maze of voice mail options through an automated response system which may have taken over an hour to navigate, but when a live support person was finally reached, they had us perform unnecessary diagnostics and suggested that we replace our modem (since it was an old model that was no longer supported) when the problem clearly existed on the lines they are responsible for beyond the MPOE. This entire process of prolonged contact, troubleshooting and repair would result in weeks of impaired Internet access. That is one of a few good reasons why broadband and more competition and better service is critical for homes, businesses and schools. We hope you make the decision to open up more competition and why local broadband providers are so important and to help preserve competing telecom carriers.

Also, since the Internet backbone was first built using US Government funds, I believe it really belongs to the people of the US and as subsequent big telecoms run and maintain different portions of the Internet backbone, the backbone seems to be more like a shared space that everyone should be able to use analogous to a sidewalk in front of the house - a homeowner maintains the sidewalk and keeps it clean for the neighborhood to share... we don't want our neighbors charging us to walk on their sidewalks, right?

Thank you,

Richard Wong